

## **PROJECT COMMITMENTS**

### **US 17 Washington Bypass**

From US 17 just north of SR 1509 (Springs Road) to US 17 just north of SR 1418  
(Roberson Road)

Beaufort County

Federal-Aid Project MAF-75-3(26)

WBS Element 34440.1.1

State Project No. 8.T150601

### **TIP PROJECT R-2510 C**

Current status, changes, or additions to the project commitments as shown in the environmental documents for the project are printed in *italics*.

### **Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch**

- An underwater archaeology survey will be conducted prior to construction of the project.

*This commitment is relative to Section B of the project. This Right of Way Consultation covers Section C (R-2510 C). It is noted, however, that this commitment has been fulfilled as indicated in a letter from the SHPO dated July 7, 2005. All areas within the Tar River that had high to moderate potential of representing significant cultural resources were located outside of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the project.*

- An intensive archaeological survey was conducted for the preferred corridor for Alternative B. Site 31BF340, a Middle Woodland limited activity location was determined eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion D – Data. Data recovery will be undertaken at this site prior to construction.

*Site 31BF340 is located with Section B of the project. This Right of Way Consultation covers Section C (R-2510 C).*

- An Indirect and Cumulative Impacts Study will be performed by NCDOT during the Section 404/Section 401 permitting process.

*A qualitative Indirect and Cumulative Impacts Study was completed in May 2005 for this project. Coordination will continue through the ICI/On-Site Mitigation Group of PDEA to determine if further ICI work will be needed.*

## PROJECT COMMITMENTS

- The project area will be rechecked for Federally Protected Threatened and Endangered species prior to construction.

*The March 8, 2006 Protected Species list for Beaufort County was checked during the preparation of this Right of Way Consultation for consistency and/or additions since the approval of the Record of Decision. In addition, NCDOT biologists completed a survey for sensitive-joint vetch in August, 2005. No changes in either the list or the impacts to species on the list have occurred. The protected species list will be consulted again prior to letting this portion of the project for consistency and any impacts to species on the list.*

### **Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, Highway Design Branch, Division 2**

- All project improvements at the J. C. Swanner House are to be east of the treeline and ditch along US 17.

*The J. C. Swanner House is located in Section C of the project. Current design plans do not require disturbance of the treeline or ditch in front of the J. C. Swanner House. In addition, addition of control of access fence along the property was approved by SHPO on May 30, 2006.*

- Tree removal along the right of way in front of the historic Joseph A. Beebe House will be minimized and a tree-protection fence line will be erected during the construction of the project.

*The Joseph A. Beebe House is located in Section B of the project. This Right of Way Consultation covers Section C (R-2510 C).*

- Six archaeological sites (cemeteries) located within the proposed right of way (31BF327, 31BF329, 31BF362, 31BF365, 31BF367, and 31BF378) are not considered eligible for the National Register, but contain burials that will be avoided during construction activities if possible.

*Of the six cemeteries listed in the commitment, four are located along the R-2510 C corridor (31BF362, 31BF365, 31BF367, and 31BF378). The other two are located in Section A of the project.*

*It appears that Site 31BF378 can be avoided; however, the other three sites may be impacted. NCDOT will continue to monitor the sites as design progresses to avoid or reduce impacts. If impacts to the cemeteries are unavoidable, they will be moved in accordance with NCGS 65.*

## PROJECT COMMITMENTS

- Bridge rail designs sympathetic with the character of the Washington Historic District will be provided on the new US 17-Washington Bypass Bridge over the Tar/Pamlico River. The NCDOT will coordinate the rails' aesthetic appearance with the State Historic Preservation Office.

*The proposed bridge over the Tar River is located in Section B of the project. This Right of Way Consultation covers Section C (R-2510 C).*

- Bridge construction techniques will be evaluated during final design in order to determine the most appropriate technique for constructing structures in the water and wetlands of the Tar/Pamlico River. Final construction methods will be selected as part of the permitting process.

*The proposed bridge over the Tar River is located in Section B of the project. This Right of Way Consultation covers Section C (R-2510 C).*

### **Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, Highway Design Branch, Division 2, Ecosystem Enhancement Program**

- The acquisition of scenic easements in waters and wetlands of the Tar/Pamlico River and in the view-shed of the Washington Historic District will be evaluated during final design of the project. Additional acreage along the bridge through the Tar/Pamlico River waters and wetlands may be considered for preservation as mitigation for environmental impacts.

*The Tar River is located in Section B of the project. This Right of Way Consultation covers Section C (R-2510 C).*